

FILED BY THE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

7-5-2001

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

In The Matter Of

JAMIE SIMON , LSW

Licensed to Practice
Social Work in the
State of New Jersey

:
: Administrative Action
:

:
: FINAL ORDER
: OF DISCIPLINE
:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners ("Board") on information received which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Jamie Simon ("respondent") is a Licensed Social Worker ("LSW"), License No. SL45383.

2. A Provisional Order of Discipline ("POD") was entered by this Board on May 23, 2001 which made the following provisional Findings of Fact:

a. From approximately September 1995 through August 2000, respondent was employed at the Lafayette Learning Center, Morris School District, as a school social worker/counselor.

b. The Lafayette Learning Center is a Special Education School for students with emotional, behavioral and/or academic difficulties.

c. On March 31, 2000, the Division of Youth and Family Services Institutional Abuse Unit received a referral from the Lafayette Learning Center reporting that respondent was allegedly involved in a sexual relationship with a sixteen year old, male student for whom respondent was a counselor.

d. The Morris County Prosecutor's Office conducted an investigation regarding this allegation, and on September 9, 2000, respondent was indicted for sexual assault in the second degree, Endangering the Welfare of a Child in the second degree, and Official Misconduct in the second degree.

e. On March 19, 2001, in Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division-Criminal, Morris County, a plea agreement was reached. Respondent pled guilty to two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Minor in the third degree (N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4a).

3. The POD was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

4. On June 5, 2001, the Board received respondent's social work license in response to the POD.

5. By letter of June 12, 2001, respondent's attorney Patricia Lee, Esq. requested that the POD be modified in two respects. First, Ms. Lee advised the Board that respondent pled guilty to one charge of endangering the welfare of a minor in the third degree, and she was convicted of this offense on June 1, 2001. Second, based upon the plea of guilty to one charge, not two charges as reflected in the POD, Ms. Lee requested that the Conclusion of Law be modified to eliminate the conclusion that respondent engaged in repeated acts of malpractice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(d).

6. Based upon the Judgment of Conviction, the Board finds that on June 1, 2001 in Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division-Criminal, Morris County, respondent was convicted of one count of Endangering the Welfare of a Minor in the third degree.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's conduct has resulted in the conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude which relates adversely to her license as a social worker pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f). The conviction conclusively establishes facts that amount to: (1) a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-10.7 which, among other things, prohibits sexual contact with a client, (2) gross malpractice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c), and (3) a violation of a regulation administered by the Board (N.J.A.C. 13:44G-10.7) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Therefore, respondent's conduct as set forth herein constitutes grounds for the Board's suspension or revocation of respondent's license to practice social work in the State of New Jersey.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ON THIS *2nd* DAY OF *July* 2001

ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice social work in the State of New Jersey is hereby revoked.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

By: *Mariagnes P. Lattimer*
Mariagnes Lattimer, Ph.D., MSW, LCSW
President